GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4583
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2001
RESTRICTION ON MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
DAGGUBATI RAMANAIDU;DUMPA MARY VIJAYAKUMARI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether restrictions on marketing of agricultural produce act is an impediment to the development of a national market; and

(b) if so, the action taken to decontrol agricultural produce and remove the marketing restrictions thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a): Government is promoting organized marketing of agricultural commodities in the country through a network of regulated markets. Most of the State Governments and Union Territories provide for development of agricultural produce markets under their respective Agricultural Produce Marketing Regulation Acts. There is no provision for setting up of a national market under the acts enacted by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

(b): An Expert Committee on Strengthening and Developing of Agricultural Marketingappointed by this Ministry, in its Report, has inter-alia recommended to examine existing legal framework governing the institution of Regulated Markets and removal of such restrictive provision which inhibit growth of a competitive market structure in the country.

An Inter-Ministerial Task Force has been constituted in the Department ofAgriculture and Cooperation to examine the recommendations and suggest measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Committee. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have also been requested to examine the recommendations of the Expert Committee and provide their feedback to the Task Force on the implementation of the recommendations.